GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COAL AND MINES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6067
ANSWERED ON:06.05.2002
NORTHERN COALFIELDS LIMITED
BALIRAM

Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a): whether due to wrong method of coal extraction being carried out for the last several years in different projects like Jayant, Nigahi, Khariya under Northern Coalfields Ltd., Singarauli (MP), the coal faceand the O.B. face ground level has turned to 90 degree which may result in a severe accident any time:

(b): if so, the details thereof; and

(c): whether due to subsidence of O.B. of Jayant Project, the P & H shovel No. 8 machine which is worth Rs. 8 crore has completely damaged;

(d): if so, whether the same has since been repaired;

(e): if so, the details thereof;

(f): whether the Government propose to conduct a thorough study into the matter;

(g): if so, the details thereof; and

(h): the steps initiated in this direction so far?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR COAL & MINES (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD)

(a): No, Sir. It is not a fact that wrong method of coal extraction is being followed in the different projects of Northern Coalfields Limited (NCL). The pit slopes of the different projects have not turned to 90 degree and the pits are safe.

(b): Does not arise in view of reply given to part (a) of the above.

(c): It is not a fact that the P & H Shovel No. 8 of Jayant project was completely damaged due to slide of OB. On25th August, 2001, an incident of sudden slide of OB occurred when the P & H Shovel No. 8 was working near a hillockwhich had hidden crack that could not be noticed during regular mine inspection. The shovel was partially damaged which was taken out for repair/recommissioning on the 3rd day of the incident.

(d) & (e): The repair work of the shovel is in progress. Therepair work has been awarded to M/s Voltas Limited (the Indian representative of OEM) for repair and fitment of operator cabin, machine house, planum chamber assembly, right hand counter weight box, hatch cover, centre box etc. for Rs.20.8 lakhs. The spares required for re-commissioning of the shovel is under process of procurement. The total expenditure will be known only after completion of the work and re-commissioning of the equipment.

(f) to (h): The incident was thoroughly enquired and examined by a Committee consisting of senior mining officers and the enquiry report has been submitted. As per the finding of the enquiry, disciplinary action against concerned officials are under progress.